

To: McNally, Robert[McNally.Robert@epa.gov]
Cc: Jennifer Kuzma[jkuzma@ncsu.edu]
From: Raul Medina
Sent: Wed 4/18/2018 7:15:46 PM
Subject: Entomological Society of America: Invitation to speak in a Section Symposium
[NAS-Future Products of Biotech-copy.pdf](#)

Dear Mr. McNally,

Jennifer Kuzma (North Carolina State University) and I (Texas A&M University) are organizing a Section Symposium for the Entomological Society of America meeting to be held in Vancouver (Nov 11 to Nov 14, 2018).

We contacted Steven Bradbury (Iowa State University) asking him to recommend speakers that could give an overview on how federal agencies (in general) or EPA (in particular) are considering/implementing recommendations given in the National Academy of Sciences report titled: Preparing for Future Products of Biotechnology (attached). Steven Bradbury gave us your name.

The title of the symposium is:

A Changing World: Biotechnology and the Future of Pest Control (see summary and speaker list below)

We would be thrilled if you could accept our invitation to be a speaker in our symposium, or if you could not attend, if you could recommend somebody from your office to give a 15 minute presentation at our Symposium.

Please let me know if you, or somebody from your office, would be willing to be one of our speakers. Unfortunately, we cannot offer funding for our speakers but we thought that if you or somebody from your office are already attending the meeting, perhaps you could find the time to speak at our symposium.

Cheers

Raul and Jennifer

A Changing World: Biotechnology and the Future of Pest Control

The goal of this section symposium is to discuss the changing world of pest control as a result of recent developments in biotechnology. Improvements in the efficiency and ease to conduct gene editing, the possibility of using gene drives to control pest species, and the realization of the crucial role played by microorganisms in the biology of most pest species, have offered novel targets and opened innovative ways to conduct pest control.

Successful implementation of pest control practices using novel biotechnology products will require discussions on risks and benefits, as well as economic, social, ethical and regulatory aspects. The proposed symposium will encourage participants to consider the importance of each of these angles in the design of pest control practices and regulations that yield societal benefits while minimizing risks.

Speakers:

- 1- **Fred Gould** (Professor, North Carolina State University): Genetic pest control: prospects and challenges
- 2- **Tim Harvey-Samuel** (The Pirbright Institute): An introduction to Gene-Drives for insect pest control
- 3- **Nicole Gutzman** (PhD student, North Carolina State University): Responsible innovation in gene drive research, what does it mean for researchers?
- 4- **Zach Adelman** (Texas A&M University): Laboratory containment of genetically-modified arthropods; gene drive and beyond
- 5- **Jennifer Kuzma** (Distinguished Professor, North Carolina State University): Value systems and their influence in the design of science-based policy
- 6- **Zachary Brown** (Assistant Professor, North Carolina State University): What does the U.S. public think about using gene drives in agriculture? And what do they want know?

7- **Jayce Sudweeks** (PhD student, North Carolina State University): Genetically Modified Mosquitos- Ok in Brazil, But Not The US: Do Policy Narratives About Genetically Modified Mosquitoes Have an Influence on Release Decisions

8-**Elizabeth Heitman** (Professor, UT Southwestern Medical Center): Ethics of gene drive for pest control

9- **Paul Thompson** (Professor, Michigan State University): Gene Drives for Agricultural Pest Control: A Preliminary Analysis of the Social Risks

10- **Sarah Carter** (Science Policy Consultant): Regulatory Challenges for Advanced Biotech Solutions

11-**You or somebody from your office?** 

Dr. Raul F. Medina
Professor
Department of Entomology
Texas A&M University
TAMU 2475
College Station, TX 77843
USA
Phone: +1-301-335-4464